

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 35-49 are pending in the application.

II. Telephone Interview

Applicants thank Examiner Akers for all of the courtesies extended in the telephone interview held on March 19, 2004, with Louis DeJuidice. Applicants thank the Examiner for the discussion regarding the Office Action mailed October 3, 2003.

III. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 35-49 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable for obviousness over U.S. Patent No. 6,134,536 to Shepherd in view of U.S. Patent 6,381,586 to Glasserman et al.

Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner's rejection was not complete as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.104(b) in that the Examiner's action was non-responsive to the elements of claims 35-49. For example, claim 35 recites:

35. A method for the real-time trading of options contracts, by a trader, over a network, comprising:
choosing a trading strategy, by the trader, comprising a multi-leg contract;
analyzing the trade strategy to determine a plurality of legs of the multi-leg contract;
populating each leg of the multi-leg contract with information based on the trading strategy;

requesting additional information to further populate each leg of the multi-leg contract; and

completing the population of each leg of the multi-leg contract based on the additional information supplied by the trader, wherein the completed multi-leg contract is an order for a trade.

The Examiner, in his response, does not address, at least, the “analyzing”, “populating” and “requesting” steps of claim 35. Instead, the Examiner recites elements that were present in cancelled claims 1-34. For example, the Examiner cites Shepard for teaching negative bid pricing values. However, this element is not present in the pending claims. *See*, Office Action dated October 3, 2003, page 3, lines 11-13.

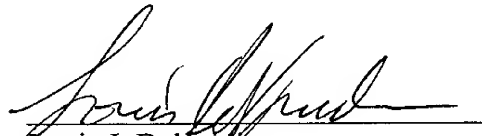
Further, the rejection appears to Applicants as if the rejection is repeated from the Office Action dated February 13, 2003. Although the first sentence of the rejection correctly identifies the pending claims, the body of the rejection cites the reasoning to reject claims 14 and 26 and claims 1 and 17. *See*, Office Action dated October 3, 2003, page 3, lines 13-17.

Thus, the Office Action dated October 3, 2003 is incomplete and Applicants respectfully request that a new action, responsive to the elements of claims 35-49, be issued.

CONCLUSION

If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through either a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,


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